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REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the notification of allowable subject matter, i.e., that claim 9 is merely objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As indicated in the Final Office Action of 04/20/2005: "the prior art does not disclose ... the limitation wherein the voltage has a high-low voltage ratio corresponding to a decimation ratio is simultaneously applied to each charge discharge gate for performing an arbitrary decimation" (see Final Office Action at page 7, last paragraph to page 8, first paragraph).

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 9, as described above, and thus should be in condition for allowance. Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1, and thus also should be allowable. Claim 9 has been amended in accordance with the amendments to claim 1. The amendments are fully supported by the application as originally filed.

As amended, claim 1 incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 9. In particular, a charge discharge gate is formed adjacent to a connection of each vertical transfer section and the horizontal transfer section, and a charge discharge drain is formed adjacent to each charge discharge gate, where signal charges are discharged from each charge discharge gate to each charge discharge drain by simultaneously applying voltages having high-low voltage ratios corresponding to decimation ratios to the charge discharge gates for performing an arbitrary decimation.

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed on October 29, 2004, and has been made of record in the electronic file of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the references cited therein and return an initialed and signed copy of the Form PTO-1449.

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It is believed the application is in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 19, 2005

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